See Page 2 for Labor Day Messages of Green and Morrison

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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WHOLE NO. 1167 | WILLIAM GREEN, President | WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, AUGUST 26, 1933 | FRANK MORRISON, Secretary | VOL. 23, NO. 25

WE DO OUR PART

Cowards die many times before their deaths;
The valiant never taste of death but once.
Shakespeare.

A. F. of L. Knocks "Open Shop" Scheme from Motor Industry Code

Militant Opposition Voiced by President Green to Automobile Magnates' Attempt to Kill Recovery Act Provisions for Collective Bargaining Brings NRA Decision That Bars "Open Shop" Declaration from the Code—Genuine Collective Bargaining Must be Based on Trade Unions.

Washington.—The militant opposition of William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, to the notorious "open shop" provisions of the automobile manufacturers' fair competition code brought the decision from Donald Richberg, legal counselor of the National Recovery Administration, that its inclusion in the code was wholly unwarranted. Mr. Richberg said his opinion was shared by General Hugh S. Johnson, Recovery Administrator.

The opinion was rendered in the hearings held by the Recovery Administration on the code submitted by the National Automobile Chamber of Commerce, at which Mr. Green presented a code prepared by the American Federation of Labor as a substitute for the conditions of employment section of the Chamber's code.

Meaning of Collective Bargaining

"The code of the National Automobile Chamber of Commerce," he said, "provides, necessarily, that 'employers shall have the right to organize and bargain collectively through representatives of their own choosing.' It ends up no machinery for collective bargaining.

"On the contrary, it proposes to 'continue the open shop,' and open shops, if I know anything about them, are a deterrent to organization and collective bargaining. Thus the Chamber proposes to nullify the provision for collective bargaining.

"Mr. Administrator, the time has come when we should determine what is guaranteed to Labor by the provision of the National Industrial Recovery Act.

"Is it enough that an industry should do lip-service to the workers' right to collective bargaining, while taking no steps to make collective bargaining possible, or, in fact, taking steps to make collective bargaining impossible?

Shadow Rights

"Examine the provisions of this code of the National Automobile Chamber of Commerce for a moment. It guarantees the workers in the automobile industry the right to organize and bargain collectively through representatives of their own choosing.

"The code is explicit that in exercising this right they are not to lose status or individual wage rates, or to lose jobs or the chance for advancement. Moreover, according to this code, the employer does not seek to determine the choice of representatives by setting up a company-controlled organization—a company union.

"But the code ignores this fundamental fact: collective bargaining is a two-sided matter; the employes have the right to deal collectively with **the employers.** Are the employers of the automobile industry ready to demonstrate that they have the right not to bargain collectively with their employes?

"I urge you that the last paragraph of Article VI, 'Conditions of Employment,' be stricken from the code submitted by the National Automobile Chamber of Commerce. Then Article VI will comprise only the mandatory provisions of Section 7 (a) of the National Industrial Recovery Act.

"Then we can go ahead and define what we mean by collective bargaining; what is this process of negotiations which the National Industrial Recovery Act guarantees the workers?

Bargaining Power Necessary

"I hold that collective bargaining, to be true collective bargaining, must have these three characteristics:

"1. Collective bargaining power on both sides. 'Bargaining' implies that. Unless there is bargaining power on both sides, there is no bargaining.

"There is no question, of course, concerning the bargaining power of the employers or the employers' group. They have financial power and waiting power and can make responsible proposals. The individual employe—one two-hundredth or, if you consider the parts industry, one four-hundredth of the automobile industry—has no bargaining power. But if he organizes with his fellows he can achieve with them **collective** bargaining power.

"2. Genuine collective bargaining must be independent of the employer and self-governing in its internal affairs. A local group of employes or an organization of employes representatives without power to assemble does cannot secure the services of legal or economic advisors and expert negotiators. It is in no position to initiate undertakings or make responsible proposals.

"Such a group is, therefore, in no position to bargain effectively with employers. When the employer has power to change the group of representatives by discharging employes, there is such disparity of bargaining power between employer and employe that no real collective bargaining power exists.

Industry-Wide Organization Necessary

"3. Real collective bargaining in any industry must be introduced by an agency with jurisdiction co-extensive with the industry. A basic wage rate negotiated with any automobile firm must consider competitive conditions within the industry.

"Wages and hours and conditions of work in the automobile industry are fundamentally determined by nation-wide forces entirely beyond the control of any single employer or any group of employes. For purposes of collective bargaining, the group of employers or even with their immediate employers, the automobile workers require an industry-wide organization.

"The employers of the automobile industry are organized in the National Automobile Chamber of Commerce. To balance this bargaining force the automobile workers' national union needs to be affiliated with the American Federation of Labor.

Collective Contracts Essential

"3. Collective bargaining must lead to a collective contract, a basic wage agreement which, briefly, is the writing to enforce and capable of enforcement.

"It will take time to negotiate a collective agreement in the automobile manufacturing industry. In the meantime we have the task of enforcing the code of minimum wages and maximum hours in the code. This can best be worked out by the National Recovery Administration code.

"The Administration cannot possibly supervise the enforcement of the details of the code in all automobile factories. A group of employes or of isolated employes representatives cannot be expected to participate in the enforcement of the labor provisions.

"There is clearly need for a strong industry-wide organization of employes to help carry out the labor provisions of the code.

Real Bargaining

"Under the Recovery Act, workers are assured the right to organize and bargain collectively. After a code has been adopted for an industry, the Government is charged with the responsibility of promoting collective bargaining. The meaning of the law is unmistakable. Workers must be organized in unions to do their part in effectuating the labor provisions of the code.

"In short, the code must guarantee the automobile workers the right of collective bargaining which will be both school system and real bargaining. Bargaining between each automobile company and its employes—between each automobile company and itself—cannot be called collective bargaining. Collective bargaining must be as collective as the industry and there must be real bargaining power on both sides."

Federal Board Fixes Minimum Wage Rates On Public Works; Union Rates Favored

Washington.—Minimum wage rates on Federal Emergency Administration of Public Works were fixed in a resolution adopted by the Special Public Works Board.

The rates were under an agreement signed by representatives of the Federation of Labor, arranged by the United States Department of Labor leader Lodish, chairman of the Labor Advisory Board of the Public Works Administration, represented the Administration.

The Labor Board who signed the agreement consisted of Bricklayers Blumenberg, general organizer United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America; Charles L. Reed, assistant to the president of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers of America; John Coefield, general president United Association of Journeymen and Steam Fitters of the United States and Canada; Thomas A. Lane, International Union of Bricklayers, Masons and Plasterers, and M. J. McDonough, president Building Trades Department, American Federation of Labor.

Three Wage Zones

The Nation was divided into three wage zones—Southern, Northern and Northern—with rates differing in each zone.

The board decided that the hourly wage rates for skilled labor should be not less than 70 cents in the Southern zone, $1.10 in the Central zone, and $1.20 in the Northern zone. For unskilled labor the rates per hour are not less than 40 cents in the Southern zone, 45 cents in the Central zone, and 50 cents in the Northern zone.

Trade Union Rates Favored

The board decided that the prevailing hourly rate prescribed under collective agreements or understandings between organized labor and employers on April 30, 1932, shall be above the minimum set for any district within that zone, that agreed rate shall be the rate to be paid for employes on construction projects financed from funds appropriated by the Administrator of Public Works under the authority of the National Industrial Recovery Act."

The board also declared that the "designated minimum wage rates are not to be used in discriminating against assistants, helpers, apprentices and learning laborers who work and serve skilled journeymen and who are not to be termed as 'skilled laborers.'"

Board of Labor Review

For the adjustment of ordinary disputes and "such problems as may result from readjustments and changes in economic conditions" during the life of the contracts for public works construction, the board established a Board of Labor Review, consisting of three members, one representing labor, one representing contractors, and a chairman who shall represent the Federal Emergency Administrator of Public Works. The members of the Labor Review Board are to be appointed by the President of the United States, but no member shall be appointed in any way who has any interest in contracting, and its decisions are to be binding on all parties.

Ickes Sees Decent Living Standard

In making public the minimum wage order Public Works Administrator Harold L. Ickes declared that the wage rates were prepared to provide a "standard of living in decency and comfort" with the limited length of the work week prescribed by Congress in the hours section of the Recovery Act.

"The increased purchasing power which will be so afforded to construction workers," he said, "would make it possible for them to take a larger share of the output of American industry and American agriculture."

New Strike Curb Devised By Spanish Government

Madrid.—Spain has invented a new name for an old method of breaking strikes. It has declared a "state of prevention" to smash a Red strike in Seville.

This gives police the privilege of arresting persons and of entering their homes without a warrant. If this fails, a "state of alarm" will permit police to depart "undestrable," even foreigners, to other localities.

WHY STEEL MAGNATES WALKED OUT ON GREEN

Washington Correspondent of "Steel" Says They Feared the Effect of the Conference on Their Company Unions.

Cleveland.—It was not stupidity, nor yet plain bullheadedness, as has been generally supposed, that led the great iron masters to walk out of the room where they were conferring with Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins on the code for their industry when Wm. Ilam Green entered in his official capacity as labor adviser for the National Recovery Administration, it developed in the Washington correspondence of the magazine, Steel, published here in the interests of the iron and steel industry.

The iron masters, according to Steel's representative, were afraid their supine company unions would get out of hand entirely if word got back to the plants that the "big bosses" were hobnobbing in conference rooms with the President of the American Federation of Labor.

It appears that the bosses already are finding their work cut out for them, with wholesale desertions of company union members and entire shop councils seeking A. F. of L. charters, to bargain with with the bosses' full intention at code hearings that these "company-minded organizations can represent equitably the wishes of their employes.

The iron masters, according to this writer, are angered by President Green's abrupt and effective method in informing the waiting reporters of the conference outside, even while the bosses were gleaming with the handclasp, and thereby securing wider and more favorable publicity for the organization than possibly could have resulted from his sitting in the conference attending to the business for which he had been officially appointed.

80,000 IDLE TEACHERS RECEIVE FEDERAL AID

Hopkins Authorizes States to Use Relief Money to Open Closed Schools

Washington.—Relief for some of the 80,000 unemployed teachers and education for a portion of the million children of school age who have been thrown upon the streets through the closing of public schools in many communities, was promised by Harry L. Hopkins, Federal Emergency Relief Administrator, after a visit to the White House.

Mr. Hopkins said he had wired Governors and State relief administrators authorizing them to use relief funds to pay wages to teachers who may be assigned by school officials to rural districts, to help open schools or where the terms have been shortened because of lack of regular public funds.

The expenditures from the Federal fund will be limited to the actual needs of the teachers, and no relief money will be allowed for text-books or other school expenses.

Hopkins Explains Plan

"I consider this kind of work relief one of the most constructive applications of the principle of exchanging service in the community for public aid," Mr. Hopkins said. "The need for relief to teachers is clearly apparent. Thirty-three States to have reported through their education officials that approximately 80,000 teachers are unemployed. Some 15 States have definitely reported shortened school terms, and in some districts this has meant curtailing them to the vanishing point.

No Subsidy

"While it is most emphatically not the intention of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration to subsidize the school system and to add nominally to the relieve school officials of their responsibility, I believe the proper employment of work-relief funds in the interests of destitute teachers will result indirectly in great community good.

Closed Schools Injure Children

"In many rural communities the complete closing of the schools virtually means the disintegration of community life for children. No one will ever be able to make the full count of the children who are deprived of education. They will waste state of childhood mind comes but once.

"Where schools are closed or terms are reduced a month or two years, despite increased enrollment, we have a great paradox. It is the exception of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration that this paradox can be righted. In some cases it is possible for the teachers to give their services on the basis of their relief needs."

STRIKING SHOE WORKERS WIN RIGHT TO ORGANIZE

Reading, Pa.—Labor won a victory here when officials of the Reading Shoe Manufacturers Association agreed with Warren D. Mullen, organizer for the National Leather Workers, to settling a strike of nearly 700 workers. The factories involved are the Reading Shoe Company, Inc., plant and that of Fein & Hays, Inc.

Under the agreement the employers must permit a secret ballot for shop chairmen to be held tomorrow. The shop representatives shall negotiate all questions of wages, hours and working conditions with the managements. Both strikes were in progress about six weeks.

It is predicted by labor leaders that the agreement will be the first signed by the National Labor Board, will result in an overwhelming repudiation of the "company union" idea by the workers.

Roosevelt Continues Full Forest Army for Six Months

Washington.—President Roosevelt announced that the Civilian Conservation Corps will be maintained at full strength through the coming Winter. The enrollment of 400 and housing for 300,000 men and youths between the ages of 18 and 25 years, for 24,000 war veterans and 14,000 Indians in the forest camps.

Also it assures some assistance for their dependents from allotments taken from their wages. Besides, about 20,000 foresters and many army officers are employed directing and overseeing the labor army.

Johnson Bars "Open Shop" Clause From All Fair Competition Codes

Recovery Administrator Thwarts Attempts of Antiunion Employers to Scuttle the Right of Labor to Organize and Bargain Collectively Guaranteed by the National Recovery Act.

Washington.—General Hugh S. Johnson, Recovery Administrator, supported by Donald E. Richberg, general counsel for the NRA, issued a statement barring the terms "open shop" and "closed shop" from all fair competition codes submitted to the National Recovery Administration.

The "open shop" is the twin brother of the company union. Consequently the decision also gives that monstrosity a body blow so far as codes are concerned.

Steel Magnates Start First

The "open shop" and company union question was first injected into the National Recovery Administration when the American Iron and Steel Institute included in the code for the steel industry a company union or "employee representation" scheme. The American Federation of Labor militantly fought the proposal as a violation of the collective bargaining guarantee contained in the National Industrial Recovery Act. General Johnson ruled that the provision was an inappropriate modification of the act, the steel barons withdrew it.

Coal Operators Bumped Off

Undaunted by Johnson's ruling, the antiunion coal operators included a sinuously-worded "open shop" provision in their code. It was militantly attacked by President John L. Lewis of the United Mine Workers, speaking for the entire labor movement, as well as by a number of coal operators. In this case General Johnson ruled that the pet scheme of the operators for securing legal sanction for their antiunion conspiracy was an unwarrantable modification of the Recovery Act and would not be approved.

Motor Manufacturers Thwarted

Then came the National Automobile Chamber of Commerce with a serpentine "open shop" scheme in their code for the automobile manufacturing industry. William Green, president of the American Federation, in behalf of the A. F. of L. labor code for the industry, trenchantly attacked the "open shop" proposal as violating the essence of collective bargaining principles contained in the labor section of the Recovery Act.

In this case again Donald Richberg, legal counsel for the NRA, told the motor magnates that their "open shop" brainstorm was inadmissible and that he expressed the view of General Johnson.

The company union coal operators and automobile manufacturers misunderstood to have threatened disaster to the entire Recovery program rather than give up their pet scheme for enslaving their employes.

Issue Must Be Faced

Organized labor as well as the entire membership of the Labor Advisory Board of the National Recovery Administration contended that the issue had to time had come for a show-down on the whole matter.

A number of conferences were held with General Johnson. Finally the matter came to a climax with the statement in his name and that of Donald R. Richberg, general counsel of the NRA, wherein the Recovery Administrator "sought to clarify the collective bargaining provision of the Recovery Act." The statement follows:

Meaning Is Plain

"The plain meaning of Section 7 (a) cannot be changed by any interpretation by anyone. It is the function of the administrator and the courts to apply and to interpret the law in its administration; and no one else can change its construction, and no official interpretation can be circumscribed, affected or foreclosed by anyone writing his own interpretation into any code or agreement. Such an interpretation has no place there and cannot be permitted.

"The words 'open shop' and 'closed shop' are not used in the law and cannot be written into the law.

"These words have no agreed meaning and will be erased from the dictionary of the NRA."

Right to Organize

"The law requires in codes and agreements that 'employes shall have the right to organize and bargain collectively through representatives of their own choosing.'

"This can mean only one thing, which is that employes can choose anyone they desire to represent them, or they can choose to represent themselves.

"Collective bargaining means collective bargaining with organized employes, or individual employes with those who choose to act individually; provided, of course, that no such collective bargaining shall violate the provisions of any State or Federal law.

"But neither employers nor employes are required, by law, to agree to any particular contract, whether proposed as an individual or collective agreement.

Employer Interference Prohibited

"The law provides that employes shall be free from interference, restraint or coercion of employers in the exercise of their rights established by the law. The conduct of employers which is here prohibited has been defined by the Supreme Court in the case entitled T. & N. O. A. R. vs. Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, 281 U. S. 548. The rulings of the Supreme Court lay down the law which governs the NRA."

Compulsory Company Union Membership Banned

"Under Section 7 (a) employers are forbidden to 'interfere with the formation of employment' that an employe shall 'join a company union' or 'refrain from joining, organizing, or assisting a labor organization of his own choosing.'

"The law does not prohibit the existence of a company organization, which may be called a company union and is composed only of the employes of the Government; but it does prohibit an employer from requiring, as a condition of employment, that any employe join a company union and it prohibits the maintenance of a company union, which is dominated by employers, by the interference, restraint or coercion of an employer.

Secret Ballot to Select Representatives

"If there is any dispute in a particular case over who are the representatives of the employes entitled to choosing, the NRA will offer its services to conduct a secret ballot election and, if necessary, a secret ballot to settle the question.

"The NRA does not undertake in any instance to decide that a particular contract should be made, or should not be made between lawful representatives of employes and employers; or to decide that a contract which has been lawfully made should not be enforced.

"Decision as to all industrial relations depends largely on the making and maintenance of agreements. The NRA will promote and not hinder such agreements.

"HUGH S. JOHNSON.
"DONALD R. RICHBERG."

Trade Unions Are Necessary to Secure Proper Minimum Pay Under Codes, Dr. McGowan Says

Washington.—Strong trade union organization will be necessary to secure an adequate minimum wage under the fair competition codes promulgated by President Roosevelt, according to Dr. R. A. McGowan, assistant director of the Department of Social Action of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, in a statement outlining the development of the minimum wage theory.

"The minimum wage has had a checkered career." Dr. McGowan said. "Started with living-wage laws for women. It got a set-back when the United States Supreme Court in a five-to-three opinion declared that to make employers pay women a living wage is a violation of the free right of a person to work for less than a living and that, anyway, so it was implied, women through the ballot had attained to the Federal Constitution, had reached a level in bargaining power with men's everybody.

"Now the living wage has bobbed up again in another form, and for both men and women, in the Industrial Recovery Act.

"Organized employers in an industry submit a code that includes what is called a 'minimum wage.' The code must include the right of representation by labor, and if the unions are on the job and the people organize, then they share in working out the labor code. The labor code must be approved by the Government. If labor does not help determine the conditions and make it a living wage in their dealings with the employers' organization, then they have another chance by appealing to the Government.

"The whole purpose of recasting the living wage and it is a good one. But it will be necessary for the amount of the living wage to be actually decided in practice by the full strength of unionism, the Government acting when unionism fails. Here is the fundamental right of human beings. Government ought to protect it and promote it as a fundamental rights."

Dr. McGowan quotes from Pope Pius XI's encyclical on "Reconstructing the Social Order" the statement that "the wage paid to the individual must be sufficient for the support of himself and his family," and says that the pioneer inspirer of the compulsory living wage by law is Dr. John A. Ryan, professor of moral theology at the Catholic University, who presented his moral theology views on the minimum wage question in his book "A Living Wage," published in 1906.

Company Union Bosses Fear Federal Labor Unions; Seek NRA "Collective Bargaining"

New York.—The Washington correspondent of the Literary Digest weekly magazine devoted to the interests of machine and tool shop employers, seems to discern at the company unions in the intensive organization of Federal labor unions by the American Federation of Labor.

Company unions, he says, particularly in the coal fields, have formed an excellent nucleus for national union recruiting, which seems, accordingly to put in doubt the contentions of the coal operators and the steel masters that the code hearings in Washington that their employes are strong for these mongrel employes' representation" organizations.

The Federal union plan is being watched carefully, and fearfully, says this correspondent; by the employers, who realize that the logical end of the plan is to form national unions of industrial workers more or less along the line of the United Mine Workers. Pending that they are beaten in their attempt to legalize company unions through fair codes, the employers, he says, are studying the possibility of making collective bargaining a reality in each industry under the National Recovery Act in such a way that it will serve their purpose, if given NRA approval, as proper instruments for collective bargaining within the meaning of the National Recovery Act, and thus to forestall the action that bona fide collective bargaining necessarily includes trade unions as representing the workers.

Employers, he says, feel that such approval might be obtained if a thoroughgoing effort is made on each of these boards; a sufficient warning to organized labor to be on its toes, and watchful that no such hybridized board, with minority labor representation, be permitted to be substituted for the real medium of expression that complies with the letter and spirit of the law—the elected representatives of unions freely organized by the workers themselves without employer influence or interference.

30-Hour Week, 60 Cents Minimum Wage Per Hour, Demanded by AFL For Automobile Industry Workers

President Green Tells Recovery Administration That Manufacturers' 48-Hour Week Will Not Provide Jobs for 245,000 Idle—Holds Their 40 to 43 Cents Minimum Wage Is Too Low For Decent Living Standards—Lower Wages for Women and Youths Scored.

Washington.—A basic work week of 30 hours extended to 35 hours in emergencies and a minimum wage rate of 60 cents an hour raised to one and one-half times the basic rate for overtime, with both the hours and wages provisions applying equally to men and women employes in all sections of the country, were strongly advocated for the automobile manufacturing industry by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, at the hearing held by the National Recovery Administration on the fair competition code submitted by the National Automobile Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Green said that factory executives who are salaried employes were exempted from his proposal and that office and salaried employes were given a special classification. Those receiving less than $35 a week would not be employed more than 40 hours in any one week and not more than 35 hours a week, on the average, for any three-month period, with a minimum wage of not less than $15 a week, and the hourly rate not less than the rates effective for them on August 1, 1933.

Employers' Long-Hour Code

Mr. Green's recommendations presented an emphatic contrast to the long hours and low wages urged by the automobile manufacturers as necessary to insure profits enough to keep investors' quarterly dividend checks.

The manufacturers demanded the right to employ their factory employes a maximum of 48 hours in any one week and a maximum average of 35 hours, extended over a four months' period, but with enough employes exempted from even these long hours to make the limitation considerable of a farce. The groups which the employers' code insisted them to work for the limit of physical and mental endurance included the supervisory staff and all employes engaged in the preparation, care and maintenance of plant machinery and facilities for production.

Wages Below Decent Standards

In their wage proposals the automobile manufacturers brought their figures at President Roosevelt's declaration that the minimum wage means a wage "sufficient to afford living," and proposed exceedingly low rates which, according to economic experts and the sex of employes. The manufacturers said that cents an hour should be the living adult male automobile workers are entitled to in cities having 500,000 population and less than 500,000 population the manufacturers said they would generously raise the rate to 41¾ cents an hour. Female workers could get cut off the prize of living in cities having 500,000 population or over would receive pay envelopes filled to overflowing with a wage of 43 cents an hour!

Unwarranted Exemptions

Then to show their real progressive spirit the manufacturers placed factory employes over 16 and under 21 years of age and all female factory employes, except those doing the same work as adult males, in a special low wage class with wage rates 5 cents an hour less than the rates for adult male employes, which would mean 35, 35¾ and 38 cents an hour, according to the size of the city where the women and youths happen to live.

Shorter Hours Necessary for Jobs

In emphasizing the necessity for the 30-hour week to provide jobs for the 245,000 idle automobile workers the employment figures compiled by the Government there were now at least 245,000 unemployed automobile workers. He claimed that in June the automobile industries were working with employes 40.4 hours per week, and that even if these hours were reduced to the 35 hours urged by the A. F. of L. only the force would have been increased by 14,000 jobs, which would provide jobs for less than 70,000 of the 245,000 unemployed automobile workers.

Employers' Code Not Job Provider

He emphasized the fact that the automobile manufacturers' code calls for a "maximum work week of 45 hours, which is 10 per cent more than the average hours worked in June, 1933, and a maximum of 35 hours per week averaged over the next four months, which is well above the average work week of 32.7 hours per worker as reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics for the past 18 months."

He said that from these figures it seemed "unlikely that the proposed code of the National Automobile Chamber of Commerce would make any real contribution to the present emergency by increasing the number of employed.

Taking into consideration probable increase in business he said the statistics he had presented indisputably showed that "30 hours per week is the longest week that can be considered to put automobile workers back to work."

Sixty Cents Minimum Wage

In his argument for a minimum wage of 60 cents an hour Mr. Green stressed the necessity of restoring the purchasing power of automobile workers and said the irregularity of employment, high labor turnover and low hourly rate were important elements in determining adequate wages.

"Our proposal of a minimum wage of 60 cents an hour—$15 for a 30-hour week is the lowest wage which will begin to restore purchasing power among automobile workers," he said, and presented Government statistics which showed that the 60-cent rate "would merely establish the hourly rates of 1928 and 1929," which he claimed was the purpose of the A. F. of L. code.

"It is our contention," Mr. Green said, on, "that the wage proposals of the Automobile Chamber of Commerce should be rejected because they are inadequate to build up purchasing power. At the hours provided in their code, hourly rates of 40 cents to 43 cents would yield $79.20 to $94.60 for a full week's work for adult male factory employes, but not more than $14 to $15.05 for the average employment of 35 hours between now and January 1, 1934. And these wages would be far below the level necessary to provide a decent living for any re-employment in the industry, as has been demonstrated.

"If hours are reduced to 30 to permit some re-employment, at sixty cents an hour the yield would be $18 and $18.90. Earnings of women and minors would be 5 cents less, or $16.20 and $17.10 for a 30-hour week. Such wages would, of course, depress the purchasing power of the automobile workers."

Territorial Differentials

Mr. Green also opposed the provision on the automobile manufacturers' code varying the minimum wage rates inversely with the size of population of the towns and cities in which automobile workers live.

"There are towns which have no solid basis in existing wage conditions in the automobile industry for such differentials," he said, and submitted numerous facts to demonstrate that such differentials would result in cutting the workers receiving the low rates, but would not increase the purchasing power of the workers receiving the higher rates, but would result in a wrong geographical organization and distribution of the industry.

Differentials for Women and Minors

The provisions in the automobile manufacturers' code which fixed lower rates for women and minors than for adult males also drew Mr. Green's opposition.

"We urge the rejection," he said, "of the differential of 5 cents per hour between the minimum wage rate for adult male labor which were proposed for female employes and for male factory employes under 21 years of age.

"Women are especially fitted for certain automatic machine tool operations, such as light sewing machine work and mechanical stripping. The industry needs their deftness and quickness, and it is not morally or economically right to discriminate against them in rates of pay. They are a very small percentage of the total number of workers, but their rights should be protected.

"We believe that minors under 18 should not be employed in factory tasks without the permission of their parents or guardians, and that workers over 18 and under 21 should not be discriminated against in wages. The number of apprentices reported in the Bureau of Labor Statistics' 1929 census averaged $7.5 cents per hour as compared with $8.4 cents per hour earned by common labor. We recommend that apprentices be paid the same minimum rates as unskilled workers, 40 cents per hour."

Since there is evidence that the proposed wage scale would impose no burden upon the purchasers of automobiles and upon the capital invested in the industry," Mr. Green concluded, "we believe that it would enable automobile workers be increased as recommended and their purchasing power restored."

William B. Wilson, Founder of Federal Labor Department, Visits Washington

Washington. — William B. Wilson, first Secretary of the U. S. Department of Labor, and a member of days here as an NRA observer for coal miners and others.

As arbitrator for the Illinois Coal Operators' Association and District No. 12 of the United Mine Workers in disputes under wage contracts, Mr. Wilson is now at the Recovery Administration has any rules of umpiring an argument between employer of President Wilson.

Unskilled Workers Received $15.83 Per Week in June

New York.—The munificent remuneration received by unskilled male labor in 21 major industries was $15.83 per week in June, according to the Labor Industrial Conference Board reveals. This was $1.41 over the May average of $14.42.

In fact, it was only $7.39, or approximately one-half less than the $23.22 paid weekly to the average unskilled laborer in 1926. Evidently this "forgotten man" is due for a big boost in pay if he is to continue existence when commodity prices have reached the 1926 levels aimed at by the Administration The June pay is now based on a 36, or even a 40-hour week, either.

East Prussia Government Aids Unemployed Youths

Koenigsberg, Prussia.—The government of East Prussia is organizing all unemployed boys and girls between the ages of 18 and 25 years into labor battalion groups of 18 to 20 persons and putting them under strict discipline administered by the owners and taken over by public credit institutions.

They will be fed and housed and paid $9 pfennigs daily. They will help to rehabilitate the lands and learn farming, but must not compete with private wage earners. Later on it is proposed to give them small homesteads. While in the land service they will be taught in technical subjects and encouraged to engage in sports.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR
WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

SATURDAY, AUGUST 26, 1933

Issued from the Headquarters of the American Federation of Labor, A. F. of L. Building, Washington, D. C.

The American Federation of Labor Weekly News Service was authorized by the 1910 Convention of the American Federation of Labor.
The Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor inaugurated the Service on April 9, 1911.

Editorials

Ratify the Child Labor Amendment

Great progress is being made in eliminating child labor by means of the fair competition codes established under the National Industrial Recovery Act. The Cotton-Textile Industry Code, signed by President Roosevelt on July 9, barred from employment children under 16 years. A similar prohibition has been included in other codes approved by the President and will probably be incorporated in the rest of them as they are adopted.

But these codes exist only for the two-year period covered by the Recovery Act. When employers are once more free to fix their own wage scales and work conditions, they will undoubtedly discover that child labor is again profitable and will undertake to re-establish it with all of its sinister results.

The labor movement has always condemned child labor as an evil at any time and under any conditions. During the depression the economic fallacy of employing children while adults are jobless has been stressed. But when the depression is over it will still be repugnant from the humanitarian standpoint.

With the welfare of the children both in the immediate present and the future at heart, the American Federation of Labor is working for the inclusion of a child-labor prohibition section in every one of the emergency fair competition codes. At the same time, it is using its best efforts for the ratification by the States of the Child Labor Amendment to the Federal Constitution as the only method of making permanent the improved child labor standards set up in the codes.

Fifteen States have already ratified the amendment. Nine States have ratified it during 1933. Twenty-one more States must ratify it by 1935 so that when the codes expire a Federal law can be enacted and child labor forever dropped from our economic system.

The American Federation of Labor militantly sponsored ratification in the fifteen States which have adopted the amendment. If will not relax its efforts until the twenty-one additional States join the ratification crusade and confer upon the Government of the United States the authority to ban children from industry for all time and place them in the schools from which they should never have been taken.

Unemployment Forty-Six Years Ago

The social menace of the substitution of iron slaves in industry for men and women workers and the necessity of reducing the length of the work day and work week to prevent wholesale unemployment were seriously considered by the American Federation of Labor in its early years.

In his report to the 1887 convention of the Federation, President Samuel Gompers declared that the "displacement of labor by machinery in the past few years has exceeded that of any like period in our history," and said it was "one of the most important facts with which the labor movement has to grapple." Commenting on the statement by the U. S. Commissioner of Labor Statistics that nearly a million workers were out of employment, Mr. Gompers said:

"It is now time that something should be done to reclaim from misery the many thousands of good men whose only fault is that they have stomachs to fill, with ready and willing hands to supply their wants, but continually receiving the stereotyped reply in answer to their appeals for work, 'No job open.'

"Much can be done by the trade unions to relieve the distress caused by the displacement of labor by machinery. Within the past few years the trade unions have secured in many instances secured a reduction in the hours of labor; for a brief period there has been a stagnation in this direction.

"I appeal to the trades unions of the country to go on in this work. The answer to all opponents to the reduction of hours of labor could well be given in these words: 'That so long as there is one man who seeks employment and cannot obtain it, the hours of labor are too long.'"

From 1887 to the present organized labor has reiterated its demand for a reduction in the length of the work week and work day proportionate to the increased production of working men and women with machinery, without reduction in weekly earnings. By the fair competition codes which President Roosevelt is establishing under the National Recovery Act that demand is being realized in part. Thorough organization of the workers will make possible its realization in full.

Working men and women everywhere should enroll in the trade unions and thus mobilize their strength in a practical way for higher wages, shorter hours and the complete abolition of unemployment.

Pen Used by Cleveland to Sign National Labor Day Law Still Kept by A. F. of L.

When the bill making Labor Day a national holiday passed Congress in 1894, Amos J. Cummings was a member of the House of Representatives from New York City. He had introduced a bill himself with this object in view, but it was supplanted by a bill which passed the Senate before the House reached the Cummings bill. After it was signed by President Cleveland, Representative Cummings sent the following letter to Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor:

"Washington, D. C., June 29, 1894.

"Samuel Gompers, Esq., 14 Clinton Place, New York City.

"My dear Gompers—Yesterday I took the bill making Labor Day a National Holiday, which had been passed by both houses of Congress, down to the President and he signed it. Thinking that you would like to have a memento of the passage of a law elevating labor, which will probably remain on the statute books as long as the Republic lasts, I send you the pen and holder with which the President used in signing the bill.

"Yours sincerely,

"AMOS J. CUMMINGS."

President Gompers sent the following reply:

"New York, July 3, 1894.

"Hon. Amos J. Cummings, House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

"Dear Sir and Friend: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 29th, informing me that you took the Bill making Labor Day a national holiday to the President, and he signed it, and that you sent me the pen and pen-holder which the President used in signing the Bill.

"I also received the pen and holder, and assure you that I esteem it, not only as a valuable souvenir in connection with the passage of the law, but also as a high compliment expressive of your attitude towards the great movement for the elevation of labor...

"Very truly yours,

"SAMUEL GOMPERS, President, American Federation of Labor."

The pen and holder used by President Cleveland in signing the bill making Labor Day a national holiday is preserved in the archives of the American Federation of Labor as a lasting reminder of one of the most important achievements of the American labor movement.

GREEN'S LABOR DAY SPEECH GOES OVER RADIO NETWORK

Washington.—William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, will deliver a Labor Day address at Akron, Ohio, at 2 o'clock Eastern Standard Time. He will speak under the auspices of the Akron Central Labor Union. The speech will be broadcast over a national hook-up by the National Broadcasting Company.

Preparations for a celebration on a large scale are being made by the Central Labor Union. They have secured the use of the Armory for the meeting and they are also making provisions for broadcasting the address to overflow groups on the outside.

HOWARD WILL MAKE LABOR DAY TALK AT DES MOINES

Indianapolis, ndi.—Charles P. Howard, president of the International Typographical Union, will deliver the Labor Day address at Des Moines, Iowa, under the auspices of the Central Labor Union.

MORRISON WILL MAKE LABOR DAY SPEECH IN PITTSBURGH

Washington.—Frank Morrison, secretary of the American Federation of Labor, will deliver a Labor Day address at Pittsburgh, Pa., on Monday, September 4, at 2:30 P.M., Eastern Daylight Saving Time. The meeting at which Mr. Morrison speaks will be at Westview Park under the auspices of the Pittsburgh Central Labor Union. A Special Labor Day Committee, of which D. J. Harshbarger is chairman, is in charge. The address will be broadcast over a general hook-up.

FREY WILL MAKE LABOR DAY ADDRESS AT EAST LIVERPOOL

Washington.—John P. Frey, secretary-treasurer of the Metal Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor, will make the Labor Day speech at East Liverpool, Ohio, under the auspices of the organized labor movement.

LABOR DAY, 1933

By FRANK MORRISON
Secretary, American Federation of Labor

The National Industrial Recovery Act recognizing the right of workers to join a union of their own choosing, abolishes company-dominated unions and encourages bona fide unions to establish membership in the American Federation of Labor.

In no other type of labor organization has the worker greater freedom to deal with questions relating to conditions of labor of immediate concern to himself, than is afforded in the trade union.

Trade unions organize within their ranks workers following the same trade or occupation.

In these unions, workers have full opportunity for self-expression in dealing directly with questions which affect the immediate character of work in which they are engaged.

The practices and policies of the trade union movement are based on the principle of trade autonomy; in other words, the recognition of the right of workers in the same trade to decide for themselves questions affecting conditions of labor in their own particular line of work.

These workers have the right of extending control over their trade or occupation throughout the country through the functioning of a national organization.

This type of organization is a natural development out of the demand of the workers for the operation of methods which satisfy their needs and meet with their general approval.

The members of trade unions are free to chart their course in whatever way appeals to them as promoting their best interests so long as there may be no encroachment upon the equal rights of other trades.

They may join with committees of other trades to act untiedly in a given situation, or they may amalgamate with other organizations as the wisdom of these acts may suggest.

MOTOR MAGNATES HAVE COMPANY UNION DREAMS

Trade Journal Says It Is the Proper Scheme to Impose Upon Employees, Regardless of the Plain Mandates of Recovery Act or Codes.

Philadelphia.—Whither the minds of motor car and accessory manufacturers tends in the matter of labor relations is cunningly hinted in the editorial columns of Automotive Industries magazine, published here in the interests of that great trade group.

Discussing the NRA code jimmied from representatives of the industry by Gen. Hugh S. Johnson in a hurried flight to Detroit, still lacking the adherence of that greatest of motor car labor philanthropists, Henry Ford, the editorial says it makes little difference whether or not the "open shop" provision submitted by the employers stays in or not; the "works council" plan in any case will be a "normal development."

Company Union Sophistry

"Works council," "open shop" and "company union" are usually one and the same thing. Named or unnamed, their stench, laden with the sweat of multitudes of spied-upon wage slaves, already staggers even the angels in the highest heavens. Of all the instruments ever invented by the hirelings of the owners of industry, the company union has served best to set worker against worker, to foil defense by employee in the utmost depths of servility and, in the end, to embitter the rations existing between employers and employees.

Antiunion Brainstorms

If the company union really is looked upon by the automotive industry as the last era and their journalistic ballyhooers as a "normal development" from the NRA codes, it is evident they are heading cock-eyed.

As the American Federation of Labor has pointed out again and again, such a view is in opposition to both the letter and the spirit of the National Recovery Act and does violence to the principle underlying the national policy declared necessary for the realization of the NRA program for increased employment and larger mass purchasing power.

It is remarkable what terrible brainstorms afflict antiunion employers when they really make up their minds to scale the heights with their company union delusions.

Investors Warned Against Buying Fake Brewery Stock

New York.—C. D. Williams, secretary of the United States Brewers' Association, warns the public against unwise investment in the stock of new brewing enterprises, much of which is offered for sale at a price far above its worth in order to pope in people of modest means. He says:

"There are unmistakeable indications of local and nation-wide activity on the part of unscrupulous promoters in the selling of questionable securities relating to the opening of malt breweries. Brewery stocks should be purchased exactly like those of other industrial enterprises—after a complete study of earning power, stability, history, executive personnel, equipment, plans and other factors necessary to a fair judgment."

NEW YORK LABOR PLANS JOB INSURANCE DRIVE

Syracuse, N. Y.—The New York State Federation of Labor convention here decided to throw the full weight of the labor movement behind the job unemployment insurance.

The convention supported the recommendations of President John Sullivan for this fight and for a pre-natal campaign to reduce infant mortality.

It unanimously supported a resolution calling on Governor Lehman to restore to the old age pension fund $500,000 sliced from it in the 1933 appropriation.

Edward Flory, president of the International Hosiery Workers and Textile Workers' Union, stressed the need of labor organization to make permanent the advantages being gained for the worker through the NRA.

Andrew J. Kennedy, assistant chief mediator of the State Labor Department, urged union men to help building trades to report to him any discrepancies they might find in payrolls, thus avoiding sub-standard wages.

15,000 Miners End Strike Pending Hearing on Code

Coaldale, Pa.—More than 15,000 striking miners here agreed to return to work, pending hearings on a code for the anthracite industry.

The agreement was reached at a mass meeting addressed by representatives of the special representative of the National Recovery Administration. The agreement binds the miners to labor on the code when it is under consideration at Washington. Harshbarger is chairman in charge of the distribution of work, saying that some mines are operating steadily, while others furnish almost no employment.

Jobs for 40,000 Provided On Federal Highway Projects

Washington.—A little more than $32,000,000 of the $400,000,000 Federal road fund has been distributed to the States, the Bureau of Public Roads notified the Public Works Administration. Some 466 projects, which will give employment to more than 40,000 men have been approved.

LABOR FIGHTS WAGES, HOURS, IN RETAIL CODE

Workers' Representatives Make Spirited Attack on Low Living Standards for Clerks Proposed by Employers.

Washington.—The labor sections of the retail trade stores code was bitterly attacked in the hearings before the National Recovery Administration by representatives of organized labor and the Labor Advisory Committee of the NRA.

The spokesmen for the workers specifically attacked the codes 44-hour week, the minimum wage provision with its wage differential between the North and the South, and the child labor clause.

Leaders of labor's attack were Miss Rose Schneiderman, member of the Labor Advisory Board, and Charles G. Coulter, secretary-treasurer of the Retail Clerks International Protective Association.

Forty-Hour Week

Mr. Coulter demanded a forty-hour week in cities of more than 25,000 population and minimum wages of $15 to $25 weekly, graded according to population.

He also demanded that the code preclude entirely the employment of any child under 16, and demanded that the minimum wage for executive classification be $40 in cities of more than 500,000 population, $35 in cities of 100,000 to 500,000 and $30 below 100,000.

Ban Child Labor

In endorsing the child labor recommendation, Miss Schneiderman said that the purpose of the NRA was to "put men and women, not children, to work." Saying that every exception to a law made it more difficult to enforce, Miss Schneiderman told the retailers that she was afraid of the effects of the "executive exemption."

She declared that elimination of fatigue, consequent on lesser hours of labor, would increase efficiency for both workers and executives.

"Let the retailers consider a return to the five-hour week, at least for cities over 10,000, proposed in their original code," she said.

Low Southern Wage Attacked

E. J. Tracy, representing the American Federation of Labor, criticized sharply the wage differential between the South and the North, charging that retailers were trying to reduce the South from raising its standard of living.

Previous witnesses from the employers' side had testified to a difference between living conditions in the North and South.

Seek Way to Curb Store Hours

Other labor witnesses were Miss Caroline Manning, representing the Secretary Perkins; Miss Freda Hall of the New York Department of Labor, and Miss Anne Powell, who demanded recognition of unions in the retail trade industry, charging that workers in large New York stores were being discharged for union activities.

WOLL VISIONS NEW DAY IN RECOVERY PROGRAM

Syracuse, N. Y.—Matthew Woll, third vice president of the American Federation of Labor, told the convention of the New York State Federation of Labor that a new economic day is dawning as a result of the National Recovery Act.

Mr. Woll's statement was made in a letter to the convention from Baltimore, where he was attending the convention of the International Photo-Engravers' Union of North America, of which he is first vice president.

"The National Industrial Recovery Act," Mr. Woll, "is the immediate instrumentality designed to return the day of continuous and profitable employment and to enlarge upon the cooperative spirit of industry and within industrial relations.

"It is perhaps of lesser concern how quickly and successfully this measure will establish the result for which it was created. It may fall of its immediate accomplishment, it may succeed only partially and again it may gain in results beyond expectation of its most enthusiastic adherents.

"Regardless of its ultimate outcome, the impression already made upon a social, political and industrial order can no longer be removed and the philosophy underlying as well as principles invoked will remain and be enlarged upon by future application."

ROOSEVELT NAMES M'GRADY ASST. SECRETARY OF LABOR

Washington.—Edward F. McGrady, frequently described as "trouble shooter" for General Hugh S. Johnson, Recovery Administrator, was appointed Assistant Secretary of Labor by President Roosevelt.

In addition to giving the National Recovery Administration a close hook-up with the Labor Department, the appointment of McGrady gives the American Federation of Labor representation in the high administrative council. McGrady has been a member of the legislative committee of the A. F. of L. for a number of years and has loaned to the Recovery Administration to be assistant administrator for labor. He was credited by General Johnson with being largely influential in settling the Pennsylvania coal strike. He was Johnson's companion in trips to trouble spots in some of the hectic days of the NRA. He succeeded Rube Carl White, of Muncie, Ind., who had been assistant secretary for 12 years.

Secretary of Labor Perkins announced that for the time being Mr. McGrady would be attached to the Recovery Administration, as the representative of the Labor Department.

NEW YORK UNIONS SETTLE LONG-STANDING DISPUTE

Announcement by President Green of the A. F. of L. Reveals Labor Board's Influence

Washington.—William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, announced on August 18 the consummation of an agreement likely to rank in future among the greatest of organized labor's achievements in the following brief statement:

"An understanding was reached today between T. A. Rickert, president of the United Garment Workers, and Sidney Hillman, president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, which terminates the jurisdictional controversy which heretofore divided the two organizations. It will result in approximately ten men's and boys' clothing manufacturing industry."

The settlement clears the way for entry of the Amalgamated into the Federation and ends the bitter battle which has raged for years in one of America's most organized industries, and promises an early victory for the employes in their efforts to wrest from the manufacturers a jurisdictional agreement and a uniform collective bargaining contract as representing adequately the will of the workers.

"Individual bargaining" is the slogan with which delegates from the organization formed here at the instance of the American Plan Open Shop Association will try to pry NRA officials from their allegiance to the collective bargaining provisions of the Recovery Act, and the lever they will attempt to use is the alleged political power of 600 business organizations scattered over the country.

Havana Dock Workers Win, Union Recognition Strike

Havana.—The 2,000 stevedores, longshoremen and other harbor workers who tied up shipping and hindered commerce generally in this capital have compelled employers to grant the demand for union recognition and job rotation in a general employment plan after agencies had run so low that, in the printing industry, for instance, two papers had been forced to suspend publication and others were on the verge of suspension for lack of paper and other materials.

It is rumored that pressure of the new Machado administration was brought to bear on the employers, as the interruption of trade, it is estimated, had cost the government $1,000,000 in customs revenues, an amount that threatened to increase largely.

LABOR DAY, 1933

By WILLIAM GREEN
President, American Federation of Labor

Labor Day, 1933, finds our nation utilizing its resources to carry out recovery plans.

Business men had declared themselves unable to deal with the situation and banks were unable to perform their functions.

Then the Administration proposed a partnership under governmental supervision and organized labor might join in developing rules to facilitate balanced recovery. The principle of partnership—joint interests—is the groundwork for our recovery agencies.

The practical effectiveness of all these plans depends upon the good-will and wisdom of those concerned and upon the degree of cooperation that develops.

We have in the traditions and practices of our nation the characteristics that come from the disciplines of self-government.

The difficulties of combating and living in an undeveloped continent have made individual responsibility and cooperative habits of daily practice.

These are qualities which we should apply to the present undertaking and incorporate in industrial relationships.

As a nation we have declared it is the patriotic duty of every American citizen, as employer or employe, to assume responsibility for making recovery plans successful and for identifying himself with his group and for carrying out the same principles as a consumer.

The new elements in our present undertaking are partnership with government and machinery to control business so that we may carry out our purposes.

The business world has become so complicated and interdependent that unless we plan our policies and organize machinery to carry them out, we are so checked and diverted by outside forces that we make little headway.

Under the Recovery Act, organization is the order of the day—organization of employers in trade associations, workers in trade unions, and channels to reflect the interests and needs of consumers.

Without the cooperation of labor, the National Recovery Administration would be fatally handicapped.

The work experience and the needs of those who carry on production processes is essential in order to formulate the rules of fair play.

In order to organize this information for use, workers must be organized so as to collect and collate facts and judgments.

The Recovery Act provides that every code must contain specific provisions assuring employes the right to organize in unions with representatives of their own choosing and to conduct their affairs without interference from employers.

When such codes have been signed and approved then the law stipulates that employers must deal with representatives of their employes—chosen without coercion or interference of any kind on the part of the employer.

Never did the union have a more vital or more constructive function than it does in our national emergency. It is essential to the formulation of codes and to their administration so as to carry out the purposes of the recovery program.

Workers who have established in unions will have a part in forwarding a program to provide jobs for the unemployed and to increase consumer buying power.

Workers outside of unions will be unable to participate and by their failure to do so will be the weakest link in the chain of organization.

Workers need organization to help in the administration of the code for the industry, in which they are employed and a different industry is organized.

It is to the workers the Government must look to know whether employers are living up to their contracts.

Labor Day, 1933, finds the labor movement with new opportunities, busily trying to meet new obligations.

The line of organizing activities reaches from coast to coast, and from Northern to Southern boundaries.

After four years of depression and steady retrogression, wage earners now know that only through organization can they provide the kind of economic security that will prevent a recurrence of the present breakdown.

We cannot return to the business practices of 1929, and if we would have better balance in our institutions, we must be able to direct their development.

Our greatest responsibility in the immediate future is to carry the message of unionism to all who work and to do our part to prevent exploitation by helping to organize business in the service of all.

HISTORY OF LABOR DAY

Labor Day, 1933, is the fortieth annual celebration of Labor Day as a legal national holiday, and the fifty-second anniversary of the first local Labor Day celebration.

P. J. Maguire, the founder of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners and for many years a member of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor, originated the Labor Day idea.

At a meeting of the New York City Central Labor Union held on May 8, 1882, Maguire stressed the propriety of setting aside one day in the year as a general holiday for the working people. He suggested that it be called Labor Day.

The Central Labor Union adopted the idea and organized a Labor Day parade and festival which took place on September, 1882.

The 1884 convention of the American Federation of Labor endorsed the proposal, and suggested Labor Day be held by unions and workingmen. The following resolution introduced by A. C. Cameron, a delegate from the Chicago Trades and Labor Alliance:

Resolved, That the first Monday in September of each year be set apart as a laborers' national holiday, and that we recommend its observance by all wage workers, irrespective of sex, calling, or nationality."

Organized labor then began its demand for Labor Day to be made a legal holiday by unanimously enacting municipal councils and State legislatures made it a legal holiday.

Oregon was the first State to make Labor Day a State holiday. The Oregon Labor Day bill was signed by the Governor on February 21, 1887. During 1887 the Legislatures of Colorado, Massachusetts, New Jersey and New York also made Labor Day a holiday. Connecticut, Nebraska and Pennsylvania in 1889 and Kansas enacted Labor Day laws; in 1890, Iowa and Ohio; in 1891, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Maine, Montana, New Hampshire, South Carolina, Tennessee and Washington; in 1892, Alabama, Louisiana, Utah and Virginia; in 1893, California, Delaware, Florida, Minnesota, Rhode Island, Texas and Wisconsin.

In the meantime the officials of the American Federation of Labor endeavored to have the Congress of the United States make Labor Day a national holiday. Shortly after the A. F. of L. convention in 1893, Congressman Robert H. Kyle of South Dakota, Representative Amos J. Cummings of New York, and Representative Robert R. De Forest of Connecticut introduced bills making Labor Day a national holiday.

The Cummings bill was reported favorably by the House Committee on Labor, of which Lawrence B. McGann of Illinois was chairman. Following is the report the House Forest bill.

The Kyle bill was reported favorably by the Senate Committee on Education and Labor, of which Senator Kyle was chairman. Following is the text of the Kyle bill:

"A Bill Making Labor Day a Legal Holiday.—Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the first Monday in September in each year, being the day established known as labor's holiday, is hereby made a legal public holiday, in the same manner as Christmas, the 1st day of January, the 22d day of February, the 30th day of May, and the 4th day of July are now by law public holidays."

The Senate passed the Kyle bill on June 24, 1894, the House passed it on June 26, in place of the Cummings bill, and President Cleveland signed it on June 28.

In his annual report to the 1894 convention of the American Federation of Labor, President Samuel Gompers, president of the Federation, announced Labor's victory with the following brief statement:

"National Labor Day.—It affords me pleasure to be able to report that the demand made by the American Federation of Labor for making the first Monday in September of each year a legal holiday passed Congress and was signed on June 28, 1894."

All hail to Labor Day, 1933!

Yellow-Dog-Contract Bosses Organize Charge on the NRA

Chicago.—Representatives of 500 trade associations organized here the Council of American Industries and planned for a charge on Washington where they hope to induce the National Labor Board, set up under the guise of the Recovery Administration to ignore the plain terms of the National Recovery Act and recognize the notorious "open shop" and its closely associated yellow dog contract as representing adequately the will of the workers.

"Individual bargaining" is the slogan with which delegates from the organization formed here at the instance of the American Plan Open Shop Association will try to pry NRA officials from their allegiance to the collective bargaining provisions of the Recovery Act, and the lever they will attempt to use is the alleged political power of 600 business organizations scattered over the country.

SHIRT FACTORY GIRLS WIN RIGHT TO ORGANIZE

Pottsville, Pa.—Some 4,000 striking shirt factory girls have returned to work in the H. D. Bob Company plants here, under a truce arranged by the National Labor Board, at Washington.

Under the agreement the company permits the girls to organize unions in each factory and these may affiliate with any national union they desire. The workers will name representatives to negotiate hours and working conditions with employers.

Pending result of these negotiations, wages and conditions will remain as they were on the day the girls walked out, under the guidance of officials of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers.

MARRIAGE SUBSIDY PLAN FOR UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF

Berlin, Germany.—The Nazi Government includes a scheme for subsidizing marriages in the unemployment relief law. It is for needy unemployed working girls and women from the status of employes to that of wives and mothers.

The law provides for a marriage loan without interest up to 1,000 marks if the bridegroom is unemployed and has obtained and if the bride-elect has been employed for at least six months of the past five years and undertakes not to go to work again unless the husband earns less than 125 marks a month.

The loan will not be made in cash, but in coupons for the purchase of furniture or household equipment, which the merchant can cash at the tax office. The funds for the loans will be provided by a marriage-aid tax to be paid by bachelors and spinsters in place of the additional income tax hitherto paid by single persons. The Government expects to finance around 250,000 marriages within the next year.

The loan is redeemable at the rate of 1 per cent a month.